

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer system comprising:
a server operable to interface with a network, the
server comprising a component that is assigned a media
access control (MAC) address; and
5 a target operable to interface with the initiator,
the target comprising a worldwide name incorporating the
MAC address.

- 10 2. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein:
the MAC address comprises a forty-eight bit MAC
address; and
the world wide name comprises a sixty-four bit world
wide name incorporating the forty-eight bit MAC address.

- 15 3. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the
target comprises a disk drive.

4. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the
20 target comprises a tape drive.

5. The computer system of Claim 1, further
comprising an application module associated with the
server, the application module operable to generate the
25 worldwide name.

6. The computer system of Claim 1, further
comprising an application module associated with the
server, the application module operable to:

read the MAC address from the component;
assign a vendor specified identifier to the target;
and

5 generate the worldwide name by appending the vendor
specified identifier to the MAC address.

7. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the MAC
address comprises:

10 a company identification field; and
a first vendor field.

8. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the
worldwide name comprises:

15 the MAC address, the MAC address comprising:
a company identification field; and
a first vendor field;
a second vendor field; and
a network address authority field.

20 9. The computer system of Claim 1, further
comprising a plurality of targets operable to interface
with the network, each target comprising a unique
worldwide name incorporating the MAC address.

25 10. A computer system comprising:
a server operable to interface with a fibre channel
network, the server comprising a network interface card
(NIC) having a media access control (MAC) address;
a storage device interfaced with the server; and

an application module associated with the server application module operable to generate a worldwide name for the storage device, the worldwide name incorporating the MAC address.

5 11. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein the MAC address comprises:

a company identification field; and
a first vendor field.

10 12. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein the worldwide name comprises:

the MAC address, the MAC address comprising:
a company identification field; and
a first vendor field, the first vendor field
15 comprising a first vendor specified identifier;
a second vendor field, the second vendor field
comprising a second vendor specified identifier; and
a network address authority field.

20 13. The computer system of Claim 12, further comprising the application module operable to:
read the MAC address of the NIC;
assign the second vendor specified identifier to the storage device; and
25 generate the worldwide name for the storage device by appending the vendor specified identifier to the MAC address.

14. The computer system of Claim 10, further comprising a plurality of storage devices interfaced with the fibre channel network.

5 15. The computer system of Claim 14, further comprising the application module operable to generate a unique worldwide name for each of the plurality of storage devices by incorporating the MAC address with a selected unique identifiers .

16. A method for generating worldwide names comprising:

reading a media access control (MAC) address for a network interface card (NIC) associated with a server
5 operable to interface with a network;

identifying a target interfaced with the server;
assigning a vendor specified identifier to the target; and

10 appending the vendor specified identifier to the MAC address to create a worldwide name for the target.

17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising:

reading a forty-eight bit MAC address from the NIC;;
assigning a sixteen bit vendor specified identifier
15 to the target; and

the worldwide name comprises a sixty-four bit world wide name incorporating the sixteen bit vendor specified identifier and the forty-eight bit MAC address.

20 18. The method of Claim 16, wherein the network comprises a fibre channel network.

19. The method of Claim 16, wherein identifying the target comprises identifying a storage device.

20. The method of Claim 19, further comprising:
identifying a plurality of targets interfaced with
the network;
assigning a unique vendor specified identifier to
5 each of the plurality of targets; and
appending each unique vendor specified identifier to
the MAC address to create the worldwide name for each of
the plurality of targets.